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181644Z Mar 05

UNCLAS MADRID 001086

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/WE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KNNP ENRG PREL SP

SUBJECT: EUROFAB: DEMARCHE ON TRANSFER OF FABRICATED MOX
FUEL ASSEMBLIES FROM FRANCE TO THE UNITED STATES

REF: A. SECSTATE 47674

1B. 04 MADRID 3536

ESTHOFF discussed Ref A demarche March 17 with French DCM Jean Marc Rives and March 18 with French POLCOUNS Antoine de Sury. Rives referred to our earlier approach to MFA last September (Ref B), noting that when he and ESTHOFF had hand-delivered the points to the MFA, our GOS interlocutor had merely thanked us for the information and agreed to pass it to other interested ministries. As a result, and given that the U.S. had allowed France to determine demarche modalities, Rives said he had instructed de Sary to make the points over the phone to MFA and to call ESTHOFF in the event of a substantive MFA reaction. ESTHOFF confirmed this arrangement in an early morning March 18 telephone conversation with de Sury. De Sury called ESTHOFF back later March 18 to report that France's MFA interlocutor, acting MFA Disarmament Deputy Director Jose Ramon Garcia Rodriguez, had no substantive reaction.

MANZANARES